

REMARKS

Claims 55-62 are currently pending in the application. The most recent nonfinal office action, mailed June 26, 2003 (paper 44), rejected claims 55-62 under 112(1) as not enabled because the downstream target gene of HMGI was not defined. Without prejudice to further prosecution of broader claims, Applicants have amended the pending independent claims to include the limitation that the downstream target gene is interferon- β . The Office Action specifically states that this limitation is enabled (Paper 44, pages 2-3). Based on the assertion in the Office Action, the pending claims are now enabled, so the 112(1) rejection should be withdrawn. Applicants have also amended claims 58 and 59 to remove the 112(2) indefiniteness rejection.

Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the most recent nonfinal office action are obviated and request allowance of this application.

CONCLUSION

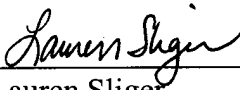
In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims are allowable, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Perkins Coie's Deposit Account No. **50-0665**. If Applicants can do anything more to expedite this application, Applicants ask the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (310) 788-9900.

Respectfully submitted,

PERKINS COIE LLP

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By: _____



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